

occasion, afterwards frankly confessed his
terror; owning
that a cold perspiration had come upon him as
he scrambled
out of the dark choir. Again, another day,
Cezanne hit
upon the idea of roasting some cock-chafers in
his desk to
see whether they were good to eat, as people
said they were.
So terrible became the stench, so dense the
smoke, that the
usher rushed for some water, under the
impression that
the place was on fire. At another time they
sawed off the
wooden seats in one of the courtyards, and
carried them like
corpses round the basin of so-called ornamental
water in the
centre' of the yard, other boys joining them,
forming in pro-
cession, and singing funeral dirges. But in the
midst of it
all, Bailie, who played the priest, tumbled into
the basin
while trying to scoop some water into his cap,
which was to
have served as a holy-water pot,¹

The three inseparables engaged also in many
a stone-
throwing fight with the town lads, clambered
over the old,
crumbling, ivy-clad ramparts, and basked on "
King Bend's
chimney⁷¹² on occasions when the mistral
thundered by,—
"buffeting the houses, carrying away their roofs,
dishevelling
the trees, and raising great clouds of dust,
while the sky
became a livid blue, and the sun turned pale/'^s
There were
excursions also, sometimes by way of escorting

regiments,
which on changing garrison passed through
the town, at
other moments on the occasion of religious
processions when

¹ Zola's "L'Œuvre," Chap. II.

² * If it is good King Ken⁵ whom you seek, you will find
him at this time
walking in his chimney . . . the narrow parapet yonder; it
extends "between
these two towers, has an exposure to the south, and is
sheltered in every other
direction. Yonder it is his pleasure to walk and enjoy the
"beams of the sun
on such cool mornings as the present It nurses, he says,
Ma poetical vein."

— Scott's "Anne of Geierstein," Chap. XXIX.

⁸ Zola's "Le Docteur Pascal."